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**CONFIDENTIAL**AHIC(W)-D-4  
8 January 1954Proposed Draft Terms of Reference  
Watch Committee of the IAC  
(Revised)

Recognizing the implications of a surprise attack on the United States or areas of vital interest to its security and conceding the capability of the enemy to select the time, place and method of attack, it is agreed that the mission of the Watch Committee constitutes the most important responsibility of the intelligence community. This function will therefore be recognized as one which transcends all other intelligence efforts. The resources and capabilities of each of the IAC agencies will be devoted without reservation to achieve success in providing maximum warning.

A. Name Watch Committee of the IACB. Mission\*

To provide earliest possible warning to the United States Government of military or paramilitary action by the USSR, or its allies, which endangers the security of the United States.

C. Functions

1. to develop and operate on a current and continuing basis an Intelligence Plan for the levying upon IAC members of the intelligence requirements necessary to provide the desired degree of advance warning and for recommending the collection priorities of these requirements.

2. to analyze and evaluate information and intelligence, both current and cumulative, on an all-source basis, furnished by the IAC Agencies, and to develop therefrom the conclusions as to:

- a Soviet/Communist intentions to initiate hostilities against
- 1 the Continental United States, vital U.S. possessions, or U.S. forces abroad,
  - 2 U.S. allies or their forces,
  - 3 Areas peripheral to the Soviet Orbit.

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\*The Mission of the Watch Committee shall not be construed as limiting, precluding, or obviating the intelligence activities of the IAC or any organization thereof.

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- b any other development, actual or potential, susceptible of exploitation by Soviet/Communist military or paramilitary\* action which would jeopardize the security of the United States.
- 3. to report promptly their conclusions, together with significant indications, to the IAC and other appropriate recipients.

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\* [Definition]

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